

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 - 16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method of operating a powder paint applicator, comprising the steps of:

providing a powder paint color changer assembly having a plurality of inlets in respective fluid communication with a plurality of powder paint sources for selectively supplying a particular powder paint to the powder paint applicator;

providing a pump in fluid communication with an outlet of said powder paint color changer and the powder paint applicator; and

selectively enabling a flow of conveying fluid through said pump for providing a suction force through said powder paint color changer assembly for drawing said particular powder paint from one of the plurality of powder paint sources through said powder paint color changer assembly and into said pump for further conveyance to the powder paint applicator by said conveying fluid.

18. (original) The method of Claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

selectively disabling said flow of conveying fluid through said pump;

purging said powder paint color changer assembly, said pump and the powder paint applicator; and

selectively enabling said flow of conveying fluid through said pump for providing a suction force through said powder paint color changer assembly for drawing a powder

paint through said powder paint color changer assembly and into said pump for further conveyance to the powder paint applicator by said conveying fluid.

19. (original) The method of Claim 18, wherein said step of purging said powder paint color changer assembly, said pump and the powder paint applicator, further comprises the steps of:

- closing a source valve associated with a source of said particular powder paint;

- enabling a flow of cleaning fluid through a purge valve associated with said source valve, said cleaning fluid flowing through said powder paint color changer assembly, said pump and the powder paint applicator;

- closing an intermediate valve associated with said purge valve;

- opening a main cleaning valve associated with said powder paint color changer assembly for enabling a flow of cleaning fluid through, said powder paint color changer assembly, said pump and the powder paint applicator;

- closing said main cleaning valve; and

- opening an intermediate valve associated with a source of powder paint desired for a subsequent application.